see that there is so much of disturbance in that State and the State of affairs that exists in your State... *{Interruptions)* How can a diploma holder be expected to know such intricacies which a degree holder knows about planning, etc.? These are the things. I have taken note *u±* your suggestion. I will find out fro my experts whether we can go to the length where West Bengal has gone.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question No. 3—Hon. Members absent. Question No. 4—Hen. Member absent.

*3 *[The questioners (Shri L. . Ganesan and Shri V. Gopalsamy) were absent. For answer* vide *Cols.* 35-36 ... infra]

*4. *[The questioner (Shri T. Chandrasekhar Reddy) was absent. For answer* vide *Cols.* 36-37 ... infra]

Telugu-Ganga Project

*5. PROF.C.LAKSHMANNAif SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 696 given in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd November, 1985 and state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission have approved the Telugu-Ganga Project;

(b) if not, what are the reasons for delay;

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what are the details thereof; and

(d) whether the work on the project has heen started by the Andhra Pradesh Government ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir.

f The question was actually asked I on the floor of the House by Prof. C. Lakshmanna.

(b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has yet to establish the techno-economic viability of the project. The State Government has also to obtain clearance from the environmental angle and under the Forest Conservation Act and resolve the inter-State issues with the Governments of Karnataka and Maharashtra.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The State Government has reported that the construction work on the Project has started.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Minister's reply, to say the least, is evasive He says that the Government of Andhra Pradesh has yet to establish the techno-economic viability of the project and that the State Government has also to obtain clearance from the environmental angle and under the Forest Conservation Act. I would like to ask the Minister what he means by techno-economic viability. Sir, the Government of India has asked various questions and all the objections raised by them have been answered. Not only that, I know for certain that the Government of India has cleared as far as this envionmental and forest angle is concerned. It has been very clearly stated that the forest area which will be submerged under the project has to be compensated by different areas, etc. The only question is about the trees to be grown, etc. This question is quite separate. Otherwise, there is clearance. Therefore, to say that there is yet a clearance to be taken by the Government of Andhra Pradesh from the Government of India regarding the environment and forest angles is evading the answer. Therefore, I would like to ask the Minister to State specifically as to what is techno-economic viabi-

lity. which is obstructing the permission to be given to Andhra Pradesh to go ahead with the Project. Secondly, what is the latest stage in terms of the clearance with regard to environmental angle and forest angle?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, I know that you do not want a long answer. It will be short. The hon. Member has asked about the techno-economic viability. May I inform the hon. Member, through you, Sir, that recently on 6th of this month, the Andhra Pradesh official held a discussion with the Government of India and he has been specifically informed as to on what points we are waiting for the clarifications. And the are...

PROF. C LAKSHMANNA : Are these in addition to the earlier ones?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I hope you are understanding what I am saying.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please address the Chair.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, I know you are understanding.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA : Is it in addition to those raised earlier?

MR. CHAIRMAN : All this is ignored. Please address the Chair. Contine with your answer.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, I agree with your ignoring the question. . .

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA : Sir, I object to this. He says that he is ignoring the question which is within his prerogative. He has to answer it. He cannot ignore it. Let him correct himself. He has no business to say that he is ignoring the question. He has to answer the question. He cannot ignore it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is ignoring the interruption.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : The interrupting question.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The interrupting question and not the interesting question.

PFOR. C. LAKSHMANNA : There is a lot of difference between the interrupting question and inter rupting the question _____

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : He is not corrupting the answer.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please go ahead.

SHRIB. SHANKARANAND: Sir, may I seek the indulgence and the patience of the hon. Member in listening to what I say J ? Clarifications from the State Government on the following aspects are still awaited. They are: (1) crop-water requirements and irrigation planning ; (2) spill-way desings of the balacing reservoirs, (3) report of the geologists in respect of Kandaleru Balancing Reservoir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The second supplementary.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA : Sir, the Minister continues to be evasive, simply restating what has been said earlier. My second supplementary will be with regard to the dragging in of the last part of the question. Sir, the Bachhawat Award which governs the allocation of waters of the Krishna has very clearly stated that there is no ground for limiting the use of the remaining water by Andhra Pradesh through its existing carry over capacity. "If the remaining water is not used by Andhra Pradesh, it will be wasted to the sea." At pages 409 to 411 of Volume-II of the Report, they said, "We have given full reasons for not imposing rwtriction* on Andhra Pradesh

regarding diversion of water outside the Krishna basin. We see no ground for further clarifying this matter. "'This is what has Bachhawat said. And, Sir this was in reply to an objection raised by one of the States. And if that is the question and when the Bachhawat Award is very clear as to the claim of Andhra Pradesh for using the . excess water until 2,000 AD, there is no reason why the Union Government should seek the help of the other two States in order to stall the legitmate claim of Andhra Pradesh. Sir, this is only evading the question, not coming to the question, not answering the question, and not fulfilling the just demand of the people of Andhra Pradesh who have got a legitimate right and claim over it. Therefore, I would like to ask him as to why he is trying to involve the others when the Bachhawat Commission whose Award has to be implemented has been so clear about this.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, the Bachhawat Committee award is there. We cannot change the language and the decision of the Award. The Bachhawat Committee Award speaks of the remaining waters. And, in the provisions which our hon. Member has referred to, it does not contain any reference about the use of the excess waters but the use of remaining waters. There is a lot of difference between 'excess waters' and 'remaining waters'. Sir, you can appreciate that difference.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA : Sir, I would like to ibe advised what is the difference between 'excess waters' and 'remaining waters'.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You make this type of statement.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND ; The hon.' Member's impatience is not going to solve the problem.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA : There are lots of people who are suffering in the Rayalaseema arey and you say ...

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : We are aware of that.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA : If that were so, you would not have been doing the same thing which you are doing.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes.]Mr. B. Satyanarayan Reddy.J

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA : Sir, he has not yet answered. Let him answer.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has answered everything.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Minister's answer is really very shocking. This Telugu-Ganga pro ject is a very important project. This project not only provides the drinking water facility to the suffering people of Madras city but if it is completed it also sup plies water to the drought affected areas of Rayalaseema. By this, lakhs of people of Madras city and thousands and iakhs of farmers of Rayalaseema will be benefited. This is the benefit not only for that part of the country but it is a benefit for the whole of the country. If more foodgrains are produced they will benefit not only Raya'aseema and Andhra Pradesh but the whole of- the country. It is therefore essential that such projects should be trea ted as national projects. The Telugu-Ganga project should be treated as national project. The other day also I had drawn the attention of the Government of India that all such projects, whe ther the Telugu-Ganga project or any other project, which gives benefit directly or indirectly to

the country, should be heated as a national project. Therefore, the Centra] Government must take the initiative and must provide funds and must give permission to complete such projects. So, I would like to know from the Minister whether the Government is prepared to treat the projects like the Telugu-Ganga project as national projects and give early permission to complete these projects. Sir, the other point that I want to mention is that this project is being taken up for cons truction as per the recommendation of the *Bachhawot* Committee's report. I think that the Minister has no objection and the Central Government also has no objection so far as the Bachhawat Commit tee's report is concerned. This Telugu-Ganga project was drawn upon the basis of the *Bachhawat* Committee's report. So, I would like to know from the Minister whether he is opposed to the Bachhawat Committee's report, or else if the Telugu-Ganga projects is being taken up for construction as per the report of the *Bachhawat* Committee. Has the Central Government or has the Minister...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Two minutes Over *(Time Bell rings)*

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY : I would like that the Minister should act as a national Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister should act. *(Interruptions)*. Nothing else will go on record. The Minister may give his reply.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, I as a Minister belonging to a party which is an all-India party, we are interested in the national issues.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN: REDDY : Sir, I asked two things, whether the Central Government has accepted the *Bachhawat* Committee's report or not. I have also asked whether the Telugu-Ganga project if it is completed as per the recommendations the *Bachhawat* Committee the Central Government has any objection or reservation to it. I have asked these particular questions but he has not answered.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Has the Government accepted the *Bachhawat* Committee's report ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Where is the question of rejecting, I do not understand.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Sir, I am sorry to comment that the Minister instead of solving the problem is aggravating it by his unnecessary comments at various levels.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN : He.is from Karnataka.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA : 1 do not guess but I have made all the inquiries and all the queries that are being made, the Government of Andhra Pradesh regularly supplies information but again fresh queries are made. The Minister himself visited Hyderabad and had a thorough discussion. Why did notsatifsy himself with all the factors ? This is the a'de memoire given by the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister to the Prime Minis! 29th January. In this it is said "All the 19 sets of comments from the Centra] Water Commission were replied no further comments on Teluguc Ganga project are pending with this Government." Secondly about environment it is said : "The Environment Appraisal Committee of the Department of Environments, Govern r of India, also visited the project in March, 1985 and they were sa about the information furni About forests it says; "All the information required under section 2 of Forests Conservation Act of 1980 to dereserve so many hectares of forest land was already furnished to Department of Agriculture and also

the Environment Appraisal Committee. Now, this is one aspect. And the Minister says something is pending always. He is unnecessarily dragging in the question of inter state disputes. Though I feel there is no inter state dispute involved because the Bachha-wat Commission award is very clear, but even if you feel that there is a dispute what have you done to resolve the dispute? Is the Minister just seeing the fun because the two non Congress Governments are fighting ? What have you done to resolve the dispute. Every state has reiterated its position. Is it not your duty to resolve it and give your judgement ? Why are you sitting tight on this point for three years?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I don't know whether the non Congress (I) Governments are fighting, I don't know. Hon. Member knows it.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA : That is your comment. You said about the inter State dispute.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : For clearing any project, first of all, the project should be technically sound. It should answer the questions about economic viability and above all there should be water availability for any project to be cleared. So far, the Andhra Pradesh Government has not fully convinced whether there is water... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: That is wrong. Sir, he himself had gone to Hyderabad to satisfy himself. His own team has gone there and satisfied itself... *(Interruptions).*

MR. CHAIRMAN : No discussion. I am going to allow half an hour discussion. Please sit down. Next question.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA : The Minister is not capable of solving this issue... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : You are simply aggravating it.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: I think the Prime Minister will have to think of changing the portfolio *(Interruptions)*

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Our Prime Minister does not act on the advice of Mr. Upendra.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA : He will and you will go *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have already said that in view of the importance of this question I am going to allow half an hour discussion. Why quarrel further ? Next question.

*6 *[The questioner (Shri Syed Ahmad Hashmi) was absent. For answer* vide *Col.* infra]

** l\The questioners (Shri Indradetp Sinha and Shri Suraj Prasad) were absent. For answer* vide *Cols.* 38-39 infra.]

Use of Land Acquired for Salem Steel Plant

*8. SHRI S.W. DHABEf
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that huge tract of land was acquired for the Salem Steel Plant out of which the present plant occupies a small area;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the unused cultivable land is neither being given to farmers nor being used by the plant authorities;

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to expand the present plant by putting one more Schizir rolling mill or integrated steel plant in the Seventh Five Year Plan ; and

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri S. W. Dhabe.